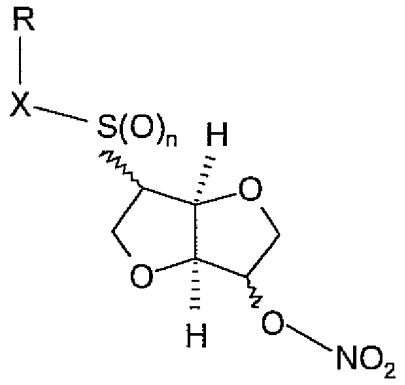
**IN THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. The cancellation of any claim or subject matter within a claim is effected without prejudice.

1. (Original) A compound according to formula (I) or a tautomer, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, a prodrug or a solvate thereof:




(1)

wherein

n is an integer of 0, 1, or 2

X represents $-S(O)_m-$, -(C=O)- or a single bond, wherein m is an integer of 0, 1, or 2, with the proviso that when X represents -(C=O)-, then n is 0,

R represents hydrogen or is a residue $R^a$, which residue $R^a$ is selected from the group consisting of:

$C_{1-6}$ alkyl;

$C_{2-6}$ alkenyl;

$C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl;

$C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, wherein one $CH_2$ group is replaced by O, S, NH or $NCH_3$;

$C_{4-8}$ cycloalkenyl;

$C_{4-8}$ cycloalkenyl, wherein one $CH_2$ group is replaced by O, S, N or $NCH_3$;

phenyl;

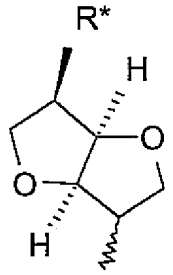
pyridyl;

thiophenyl;

nitrosyl;

S-cysteinyl;

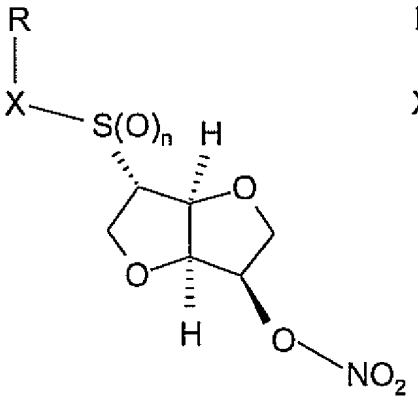
S-glutathionyl; and



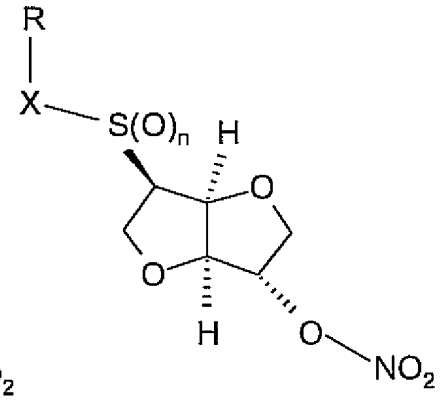

wherein R* is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C_{2-6}$ alkenyl,, $C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl; $C_{4-8}$ cycloalkenyl, acetyloxy, hydroxyl, $ONO_2$ and halogen,

wherein $R^a$ optionally is substituted by one to three groups independently selectd from $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C_{2-6}$ alkenyl, $C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, $C_{4-8}$ cycloalkenyl, acetyloxy, hydroxyl, $ONO_2$ and halogen,

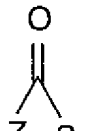
provided that when $RXS(O)_n$- and -$ONO_2$ are trans to each other with respect to the ring plane as depicted in formulae (Ia) and (Ib):




(1a)




(1b)

then $RXS(O)_n$- does not represent  wherein Z is an $C_1$-$C_4$ alkyl group, aryl group, or an aralkyl group.

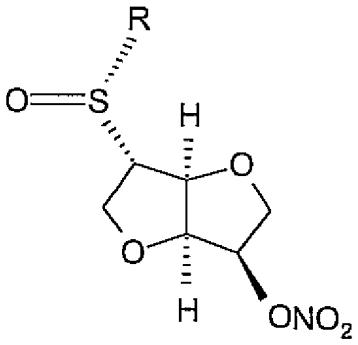
2. (Original) A compound according to Claim 1, wherein either one or both of m and n is 0.

3. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, wherein X represents a single bond or -S-.

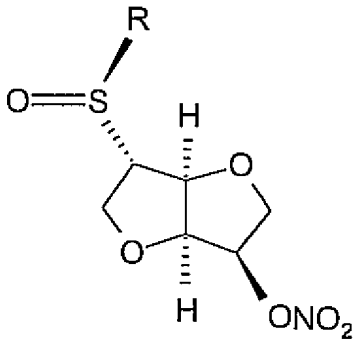
4. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1wherein R represents hydrogen, $C_{1-6}$ alkyl, $C_{2-6}$ alkenyl, $C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, $C_{4-8}$ cycloalkenyl, ($C_{1-6}$ alkyl) $C_{3-8}$ cycloalkyl, ($C_{1-6}$ alkyl) $C_{4-8}$ cycloalkenyl, phenyl, ($C_{1-6}$ alkyl)phenyl, 5-acetyloxyisosorbid-2-yl, 5-hydroxyisosorbid-2-yl or 5-nitratoisosorbid-2-yl.

5. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, wherein R is $C_{1-6}$ alkyl.

6. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, which is a compound according to formula (Ic) or Id):




(1c)




(1d)

7. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 1, which is selected from:

2-thioisosorbide 5-mononitrate,

5,5'-dinitrate-2,2'-dithiodiisosorbide,

2-methylthioisosorbide 5-mononitrate,

2-[(R)-methylsulfinyl] isosorbide 5-mononitrate,

2-[(S)-methylsulfinyl]isosorbide 5-mononitrate

2-methylsulfinylisosorbide 5-mononitrate,

2-methylsulfonylisosorbide 5-mononitrate,

S-nitroso-2-thiososorbide 5-mononitrate,

2-(tetrahydropyran-2-yl-thio) isosorbide 5-monoitrate,

2-(isosorbidyl-2'dithio) isosorbide 5-mononitrate, and

2-(5'-acetyloxyisosorbidyl-2'-dithio) isosorbide 5-mononitrate.

8. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising as active ingredients(s) at least one compound according to Claim 1, optionally together with one or more physiologically acceptable excipient(s), activator(s), chelating agent(s) and/or stabilizer(s).

9-38. (Cancelled)

39. (Original) 2,2'-dithiodiisosorbide.